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FROM: Ryan W. Massey

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## COMMENTS:

**Serial No. 09/840,278****RE: meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2003 - Items for Discussion**

## \* \* \* NOTICE \* \* \*

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09/840,278

Items for discussion:

Claims 4 and 13, Neither Daneshvar or Ratcliff appear to disclose first and second lid portions including respective first and second latches for engaging the lids to a respective one of the base and cover portions.

Daneshvar discloses both "lids" being engaged to the cover and not to the base and fails to show a slidable latch for each lid.

Ratcliff discloses two lids, both of which are associated with the base and includes only a single rotatable latch for engaging both lids to the base.

Claim 7, Neither Daneshvar or Ratcliff appear to disclose an adjustable divider for selectively positioning between locating tabs on an internal lateral divider wall.

Claims 10 and 16, the disclosures of Takama and Spencer do not appear to show a removable spacer with first and second end sections having a larger cross section than a middle section and the end sections having recessed portions in an end face thereof receiving at least one of said series of tabs. Modifying Takama view of Spencer doesn't make sense in view of the relative size differences between each. Such a modification would improperly modify the intended purpose of the narrow flexible dividers of Takama.

Claim 21, Ratcliff does not appear to disclose a latch coupled to the lid body and slidable between locked and unlocked positions. Applicants further submit that raised lips on an inner lid are not well known.

*rotatable  
latch 55 is coupled to the lid  
body*

*Ratcliff's, rotatable  
latch slides w.r.t. lids*

*see Fig. 13, 14  
individual  
discussions not  
responsive  
? I don't understand  
relative size  
difference  
although Spencer  
seems to be a larger  
crate while  
Takama seems  
smaller as a  
spare*

For claim 1, Schmitz v. German ref. # (645.9) + ~~St~~  
series of hinge sections for base, cover  
& inner lids

Ratcliff v. Teague for cl. 21